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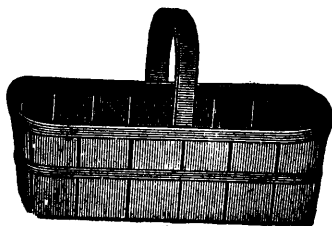
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Mercantile Summary.

THE Macdonald crockery establishment at St. Johns, Que., has been sold to a French syndicate for \$120,000, the vendors retaining stock in the concern to the amount of \$20,000.

THE cycle tax in France shows that the proportion of riders is as four for every thousand inhabitants, giving the number of cycles at the end of last year as approximately 160,000.

W. SENKBEIL, who is retiring from the boot and shoe trade at Brandon, and E. Merner, formerly in the grocery trade at the same place, contemplate establishing a felt factory at Brandon. They want a loan of \$8,000 and a special rate of taxation from the municipality.

THE Winnipeg *Commercial* is authority for the statement that the Edmonton Board of Trade has received a free railway pass for a delegate to go to British Columbia to obtain latest information about the markets there, with a view to shipping Alberta's produce to that province.

THE production of German pig iron at the works included in the south-western branch of the German Iron and Steel Association shows an increase for June over the corresponding month of last year of 13.1 per cent. The production for the first six months of 1896 was 601,804 tons; that for the first six months of 1895 was 556,183 tons.

ONE of the events of July in Britain was the great fire at the Humber Company's Coventry works. The company was insured with three offices for £62,000, which, however, does not cover the damage. It is expected that the delay occasioned will not be very serious. About 12,000 cycles are understood to have been on order at the time of the fire.

It is announced that the Lake of the Woods Milling Company cannot find room for their shipments direct to Australia, as the space is all spoken for in the Vancouver and Sydney Line up to October sailing. The above firm is about to send 1,000 tons of wheat to Sydney by the "Miowera," leaving Vancouver Sept. 8, but another shipment of 5,000 barrels of flour will go to Hong Kong in the "Empress of Japan" and be transhipped to Sydney.

A BOLD case of the revolt of a parishioner against alleged improper interference by a priest is found in the fact that Messrs. Riendeau, hotel-keepers at Longueuil, have sued

their parish priest, Rev. Cure Tasse, for \$10,000, alleging that the defendant in a sermon on Sunday, Aug. 9, severely reflected on their hotels, claiming that their licenses should be annulled.

THE Menominee Iron Works, of Menominee, Mich., have received a request through the Japanese consul, at Tacoma, to bid on the machinery for establishing a complete modern saw mill in Japan.

Not less than sixty co-operative shops have been opened in New York by Brotherhood tailors. About 800 men were employed. Over 200 contractors have signed the Brotherhood's new agreement. Their shops employ 4,000 men.

GEN. WEYLER's order closing the ports of Baus and Sama, Cuba, has resulted in the stoppage of shipments of bananas to the United States from Cuba. Now, if anything should happen to the peanut crop, what would American children and young maidens do?

THE Privy Council of Canada, by minute of 1st August, instant, advises, on the recommendation of the premier, that the Hon. Mr. Laurier, the Hon. J. I. Tarte, the Hon. Sir Richard Cartwright and the Hon. W. S. Fielding be appointed, on behalf of the Government of Canada, to confer with R. Wilson Smith, the Mayor of Montreal; R. Bickerdike, chairman of the Board of Trade, and H. Laporte, on behalf of the Citizens' Committee of Montreal, in connection with the forthcoming Canadian international exhibition, in the room and stead of the Hon. A. R. Dickey, Hon. J. F. Wood and Hon. A. A. Desjardins, appointed by the order-in-Council of June 11, 1896.

ONE cause for the comparatively low Wall street quotations on shares of industrial corporations is the very unsatisfactory state of general business, says the N. Y. *Shipping List* of last Saturday. The same journal is told by a banker who is well informed regarding commercial affairs, that there is "not the least reason to apprehend any particular commercial trouble in the States at the present time, for the merchants generally have got their affairs into a very compact shape, and their operations have been contracted and curtailed in time to prevent trouble." We trust the banker may be right. It is not pleasant to contemplate either particular or general trouble in that great country, but they have been "fixing for trouble" a long time.



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